

ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

March 30, 2011

Mr. Adam C. Falco Senior Assistant City Attorney City of College Station P.O. Box 9960 College Station, Texas 77842

OR2011-04384

Dear Mr. Falco:

You ask whether certain information is subject to required public disclosure under the Public Information Act (the "Act"), chapter 552 of the Government Code. Your request was assigned ID# 417435.

The College Station Police Department (the "department") received a request for a specified incident report. You state the department has released basic information to the requestor. You claim that the submitted information is excepted from disclosure under section 552.108 of the Government Code. We have considered the exception you claim and reviewed the submitted information.

You raise section 552.108(a)(2) of the Government Code, which excepts from disclosure "[i]nformation held by a law enforcement agency or prosecutor that deals with the detection, investigation, or prosecution of crime . . . it is information that deals with the detection, investigation, or prosecution of crime only in relation to an investigation that did not result in conviction or deferred adjudication[.]" Gov't Code § 552.108(a)(2). A governmental body must reasonably explain how and why section 552.108 is applicable to the information at issue. See id. § 552.301(e)(1)(A). You state the submitted information concerns an investigation in which no charges were filed, and the investigation did not result in conviction or deferred adjudication. Based on this representation and our review, we conclude section 552.108(a)(2) of the Government Code is applicable to the submitted information.¹

¹ As our ruling is dispositive for this information, we need not address your argument under section 552.108(b)(2) against its disclosure.

However, section 552.108 does not except from disclosure basic information about an arrested person, an arrest, or a crime. Gov't Code § 552.108(c). Basic information refers to the information held to be public in *Houston Chronicle Publishing Co. v. City of Houston*, 531 S.W.2d 177 (Tex. Civ. App.—Houston [14th Dist.] 1975), writ ref'd n.r.e. per curiam, 536 S.W.2d 559 (Tex. 1976). This information includes, but is not limited to, the details of the arrest, the physical condition of the arrested person, and a detailed description of the offense. See Open Records Decision No. 127 (1976) (summarizing types of information deemed public by *Houston Chronicle*). Thus, with the exception of basic information, which you state you have released, the department may withhold the submitted information pursuant to section 552.108(a)(2) of the Government Code.

This letter ruling is limited to the particular information at issue in this request and limited to the facts as presented to us; therefore, this ruling must not be relied upon as a previous determination regarding any other information or any other circumstances.

This ruling triggers important deadlines regarding the rights and responsibilities of the governmental body and of the requestor. For more information concerning those rights and responsibilities, please visit our website at http://www.oag.state.tx.us/open/index orl.php, or call the Office of the Attorney General's Open Government Hotline, toll free, at (877) 673-6839. Questions concerning the allowable charges for providing public information under the Act must be directed to the Cost Rules Administrator of the Office of the Attorney General, toll free at (888) 672-6787.

Sincerely,

Kirsten Brew

Assistant Attorney General Open Records Division

KB/sdk

Ref: ID# 417435

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor

(w/o enclosures)